

§ 1467.18

except a decision of the Chief of Department under these procedures.

(c) Any appraisals, market analysis, or supporting documentation that may be used by the Department in determining property value are considered confidential information, and shall only be disclosed as determined at the sole discretion of the Department in accordance with applicable law.

[60 FR 28514, June 1, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 67316, Dec. 29, 1995. Redesignated and amended at 61 FR 42141, 42143, Aug. 14, 1996]

§ 1467.18 Scheme and device.

(a) If it is determined by the Department that a landowner has employed a scheme or device to defeat the purposes of this part, any part of any program payment otherwise due or paid such landowner during the applicable period may be withheld or be required to be refunded with interest thereon, as determined appropriate by the Department.

(b) A scheme or device includes, but is not limited to, coercion, fraud, misrepresentation, depriving any other person of payments for cost-share practices or easements for the purpose of obtaining a payment to which a person would otherwise not be entitled.

(c) A landowner who succeeds to the responsibilities under this part shall report in writing to the Department any interest of any kind in enrolled land that is held by a predecessor or any lender. A failure of full disclosure will be considered a scheme or device under this section.

[60 FR 28514, June 1, 1995. Redesignated and amended at 61 FR 42141, 42143, Aug. 14, 1996]

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AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 3839bb.

SOURCE: 63 FR 51786, Sept. 29, 1998, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Provisions

§ 1468.1 Purpose.

(a) Through the Conservation Farm Option (CFO), the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) provides financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns, water quality protection or improvement; wetland restoration and protection; wildlife habitat development and protection; and other similar conservation purposes on their lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) may provide technical assistance, upon request by the producer or landowner.

(b) The CCC provides a single contract and annual payments for implementation of innovative and environmentally-sound methods for addressing natural resource concerns for producers of wheat, feed grains, cotton, and rice, resulting in consolidation of payments that would have been available under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the Wetlands Reserve Program cost-share agreements (WRP), and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). CFO participation is determined through two step